

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A computer-readable medium having a suite of computer-executable components comprising at least one component implementing a component setup interface, said component setup interface exposing a first method to allow another component to query for a specific setup install action interface for each install action available for the component.
2. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein said setup install action interface comprises a GetInteger method allowing an association of a unique integer with each install action.
3. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein said setup install action interface comprises a GetString method for returning a string that is displayed for each install action.
4. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein said setup install action interface comprises a GetProblem method for returning information that the component has a problem, and wherein said information is linked to a string that is displayed to a user.
5. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein said setup install action interface comprises a GetResult method that returns a resultant state of the component after performance of the install action.
6. The computer-readable medium of claim 5, wherein a first resultant state is Install, and wherein said Install resultant state indicates that the component is installed.
7. The computer-readable medium of claim 5, wherein a first resultant state is Remove, and wherein said Remove resultant state indicates that the component is no longer installed.

8. The computer-readable medium of claim 5, wherein a first resultant state is Nothing, and wherein said Nothing resultant state indicates that no action was taken on the component.

9. The computer-readable medium of claim 5, wherein a first resultant state is Maintenance, and wherein said Maintenance resultant state indicates that no action was taken on the component but that actions may be taken on a sub-component of the component.